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REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 4, 6, 17, 20, 22, and 25 have been amended, claims 3, 5, 19, 21, 23, 28, and 31-47 have been canceled, and claims 54-56 have been added.

After entry of this amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 6-18, 20, 22, 24-27, 29, 30, and 48-56 will remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 7-23, 25-27, and 29-47 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Katoh (US 5,665,025).

Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of objected to claim 5 and intervening claim 3. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 should now be allowable.

Claims 3 and 5 have been canceled, and claims 4 and 6 have been amended to now depend from claim 1 as a result of the amendment being made to claim 1.

Dependent claims 2, 4, and 6-16 recite additional features of the invention and are therefore believed to be allowable for the same reasons recited above with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 17 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 23 and intervening claims 19 and 21. Claim 17 now recites, *inter alia*, that "the input shaft of the actuator being directly coupled to the throttle position sensor such that rotation of the actuator results in a change to a throttle position sensor signal." The actuator 89 of Katoh is not directly coupled to the throttle position sensor 75. In Katoh, it is the throttle plate which is coupled to the throttle position sensor. Rotation of the actuator of Katoh does not result in a change to a throttle position sensor signal until the actuator engages throttle control 93 which moves the throttle plate. In the Applicants' invention as claimed, rotation of the actuator results in a change to a throttle position sensor signal

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regardless of whether the actuator has engaged the throttle plate or not. Therefore, claims 17 should now be allowable.

Claims 19, 21, and 23 have been canceled, and claims 20 and 22 have been amended to now depend from claim 17 as a result of the amendment being made to claim 17.

Dependent claims 18, 20, 22, and 24 recite additional features of the invention and are therefore believed to be allowable for the same reasons recited above with respect to claim 17 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 25 has been amended to include all of the limitations of objected to claim 28. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 25 should now be allowable.

Claim 28 has been canceled as a result of the amendment being made to claim 25.

Dependent claims 26, 27, 29, and 30 recite additional features of the invention and are therefore believed to be allowable for the same reasons recited above with respect to claim 25 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 31-47 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 48-53 were indicated to be allowed by the Examiner.

New independent claim 54 recites a throttle assembly having, *inter alia*, "a throttle position sensor associated with the mechanical actuator and capable of sensing movement of the mechanical actuator during the portion of input motion to the mechanical actuator which is not transmitted to the throttle plate". Here, similarly to claim 17, movement of the mechanical actuator is sensed by the throttle position sensor regardless of whether the actuator has engaged the throttle plate or not. Therefore, claim 54 is believed to be allowable for the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 17.

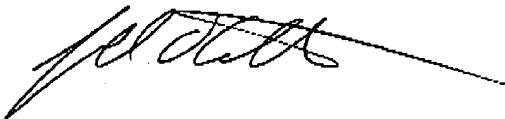
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New dependent claims 55 and 56 recite additional features of the invention and are therefore believed to be allowable for the same reasons recited above with respect to claim 54 and for the additional features recited therein.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2, 4, 6-18, 20, 22, 24-27, 29, 30, and 48-56 are now allowable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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